

# PROTOCOL FOR THE IMPORTATION OF SWINE FROM CANADA

September 2008; Updated June 2017

## 1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The importer must obtain an **Import Permit** from the:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Veterinary Services  
National Center for Import and Export, Unit 39  
4700 River Road  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

Telephone: **(301) 851-3300, Option #2**

Fax: **(301) 734-4704**

Web Site: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/index.shtml)

- 1.1. An import permit is not required for swine presented for entry to the U.S. at a land border port. Swine presented for entry at other designated ports must be accompanied by an import permit issued by APHIS VS' National Center for Import and Export. To receive this permit, importers must submit VS Form 17-129, "Application for Import or in Transit Permit", which may be obtained by writing, calling, or downloading an application from our web site above.
- 1.2. Swine imported for purposes other than for immediate slaughter ('non-slaughter swine');
  - 1.2.1. An official health certificate is required for all non-slaughter swine, presented for entry from Canada. The official health certificate must be issued by a veterinarian designated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and must be endorsed by a veterinarian employed by the CFIA attesting to the certifications and tests required in this protocol.

## 2. **CERTIFICATIONS:** The official health certificate must contain the following statements:

- 2.1. Canada is free of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), Rinderpest, Classical Swine Fever, African Swine Fever, Swine Pseudorabies, and Swine Vesicular Disease.
- 2.2. For at least 60 days immediately preceding the time of movement from the premises of origin no Swine Erysipelas or Swine Plague (Pasteurellosis) has existed on such premises or adjoining premises.
- 2.3. During the 60 days immediately preceding export, the swine intended for export to the United States have not had any contact with other swine or ruminants which would not qualify for export to the United States under this protocol.
- 2.4. The swine intended for export to the United States have not been imported into Canada from countries designated by the USDA as affected with FMD, Rinderpest, African Swine Fever, Hog Cholera (Classical Swine Fever), or Swine Vesicular Disease; nor are they the first generation progeny of such imported swine.

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- 2.5. The swine intended for export to the United States have been in Canada for at least 60 days immediately preceding the date of export to the United States.
- 2.6. The attesting CFIA-accredited veterinarian has inspected the swine immediately before the date of export and found the swine to be free of evidence of infectious and communicable diseases and, as far as can be determined, exposure thereto during the preceding 60 days.
- 2.7. The swine were not vaccinated with any live or attenuated or inactivated vaccine during the 14 days preceding export to the United States.
- 2.8. The official health certificate must include:
  - name and address of the importer;
  - species, breed, and number of animals to be imported;
  - purpose of importation
  - individual identification, which includes the official Canadian eartag number or other approved forms of individual identification, and any other identification present on the animal, including registration number and brands;
  - description of the animals, including age in months, sex, breed, and markings (if any);
  - region/country of origin;
  - address or other means of identifying the premises of origin and any other premises where the animals resided immediately prior to export;
  - specific physical location of the APHIS-approved slaughtering establishment, including the applicable Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) establishment number for swine for immediate slaughter;
  - name and address of the exporter;
  - port of embarkation in Canada, the mode of transportation, route of travel (slaughter animals), and port of entry in the United States.
- 2.9. Before export all swine (except swine for immediate slaughter; see below) were individually identified by an individual identification (plastic bangle tag that can be read without restraining the pigs or equivalent) and a permanent identification in the form of a plastic or metal ear tag, unique tattoo, brand or microchip. An official CFIA button eartag can be substituted if it can be read without restricting the animals in a chute.
  - 2.9.1. Swine less than 21 days of age (isoweans) may be identified with only a CFIA-approved premises tattoo.
  - 2.9.2. Swine over 21 days of age must be identified with a CFIA- approved eartag, or be microchipped.
  - 2.9.3. Swine for Immediate Slaughter ('Slaughter swine').
- 2.10. Slaughter swine may be imported from Canada without certification.
  - 2.10.1. Slaughter swine must be presented by appointment to a U.S. port of entry, (POE), listed in 9 CFR 93.403(b). A VS Form 17-29, "Declaration of Importation," shall be presented to the collector of customs at the port of entry by the importer or their agent for the use of the port veterinarian at the port of entry. This declaration of

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importation is the only required document for immediate slaughter swine of any age originating in Canada.

- 2.10.2. Slaughter swine must be given a visual inspection and moved directly from the port of entry to the APHIS-approved slaughtering establishment in conveyances that are sealed with USDA seals at the port of entry. The route of travel from the port of entry to the approved slaughtering establishment must be listed on the health certificate.
- 2.10.3. The seals may be broken only at the APHIS-approved slaughtering establishment by an authorized USDA representative.
- 2.10.4. Slaughter swine must be accompanied from the port of entry to the APHIS approved slaughtering establishment by VS Form 17-30, Report of Animals, Poultry or Eggs Offered for Importation and VS Form 17-33, Animals Imported for Immediate Slaughter.

## 3. INSPECTION AT U.S. PORT OF ENTRY

- 3.1.1. All swine presented for any purpose will be visually inspected by APHIS VS at the port of entry, without offloading.
- 3.1.2. If a microchip is used as the sole identification, the importer will provide the port veterinarian with a functional reader. An electronic file of the Canadian health certificate with the animal IDs should be given to the port veterinarian at the time of inspection. The animals must be arranged in the truck and the microchip implanted in a location allowing reading of all microchips without unloading the animals, if possible.
- 3.1.3. **Swine for other than immediate slaughter:** The port VMO shall perform a general visual health inspection onboard the vehicle to verify appropriate individual animal identification is present.
  - 3.1.3.1. If individual swine do not meet VS requirements (identification, health certification) for entry, or if there is any concern about the health status of any swine in the shipment, the individual swine in the shipment may be refused entry, or the entire load may be refused entry and returned to Canada, at the discretion of the port veterinarian.
  - 3.1.3.2. If there are any swine exhibiting clinical signs of infectious disease, the entire load should be refused entry.
  - 3.1.3.3. If swine presented for purposes other than for immediate slaughter meet all requirements for entry, the port veterinarians will issue VS Form 17-30, "Report of Animals, Poultry or Eggs Offered for Importation".
- 3.1.4. **Swine for Immediate Slaughter:** The port VMO shall perform a general visual health inspection onboard the vehicle.
  - 3.1.4.1. If any swine are found to be exhibiting clinical signs of infectious disease,

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or if there are other concerns about the health status of swine for immediate slaughter presented for entry to the U.S., then the entire load should be refused entry.

- 3.1.4.2. If the swine for immediate slaughter meet all requirements for entry, the port veterinarian will seal the vehicle and issue VS Forms 17-30, "Report of Animals, Poultry or Eggs Offered for Importation" and VS Form 17-33, "Animals Imported for Immediate Slaughter" for direct movement to an APHIS- approved immediate slaughtering facility.